

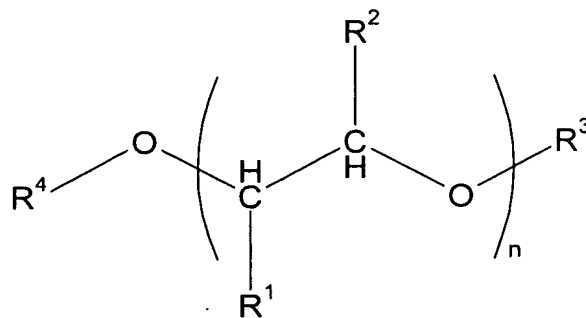
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

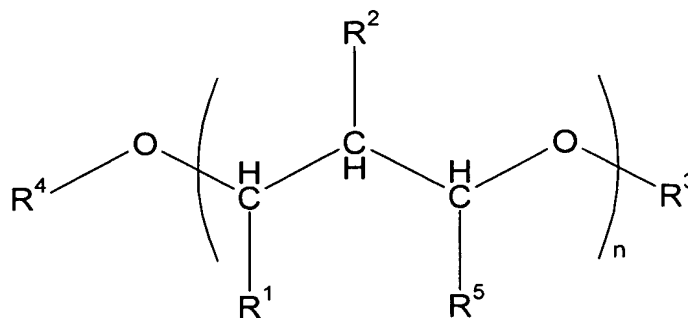
Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for stabilizing a halogen-containing polymer comprising adding to said polymer a thermally stabilizing amount of a mixture comprising:

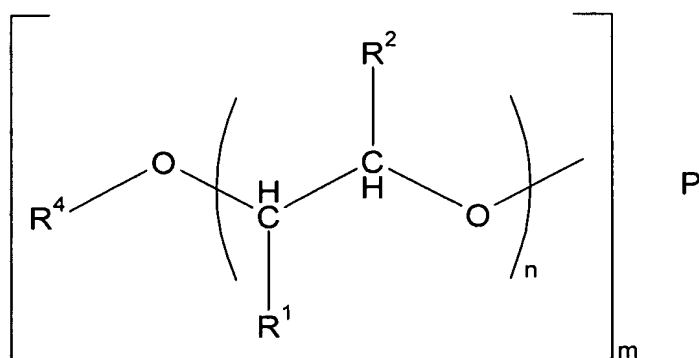
A) from 0.01 to 10 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the halogen-containing polymer, of at least one polyalkylene glycol of general formula:



or



or



wherein:

R^1 , R^2 , and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, hydroxyl, hydroxyalkyl, thiol, and thioalkyl;

R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and acyl; and

n is an integer of from 1 to 20;

m is 3 and the three substituents in P can be the same or different; and

B) from 0.001 to 5 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the halogen-containing polymer, of at least one metal salt of a strong acid selected from the group consisting of perchloric acid, trifluoroacetic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, alkylsulfuric acid, phosphotungstic acid, HPF_6 , HBF_4 , and $HSbF_6$; and, optionally,

C) from 0.001 to 10 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the halogen-containing polymer, of at least one metal soap;

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provided that when a metal soap is present, the ratio of the weight of the metal soap to the combined weights of the metal salt of the strong acid plus the polyalkylene glycol is no greater than about 3:1.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, tetraethylene glycol, pentaethylene glycol, hexaethylene glycol, heptaethylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, tripropylene glycol, tetrapropylene glycol, and polyethylene glycol or polypropylene glycol of molecular weights in the range of from about 100 to about 500.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the strong acid is perchloric acid or trifluoromethanesulfonic acid.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mixture further comprises at least one additional additive or stabilizer.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the additional additive or stabilizer is selected from the group consisting of polyols, disaccharide alcohols, glycidyl compounds, hydrotalcites, zeolites, fillers, ~~metal soaps~~, alkali metal and alkaline earth metal compounds, lubricants, plasticizers, phosphites, pigments, epoxy compounds, antioxidants, UV absorbers, light stabilizers, optical brighteners, and blowing agents.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the halogen-containing polymer is polyvinyl chloride.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~7~~ 15 wherein the polyalkylene glycol is selected from the group consisting of diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, tetraethylene glycol, pentaethylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, tripropylene glycol, tetrapropylene glycol, and polyethylene glycol or polypropylene glycol of molecular weights in the range of from about 100 to about 500.
9. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~7~~ 15 wherein the strong acid is perchloric acid or trifluoromethanesulfonic acid.
10. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~7~~ 15 wherein the mixture further comprises at least one additional additive or stabilizer.
11. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein the additional additive or stabilizer is selected from the group consisting of polyols, disaccharide alcohols, glycidyl compounds, hydrotalcites, zeolites, fillers, ~~metal soaps~~, alkali metal and alkaline earth metal

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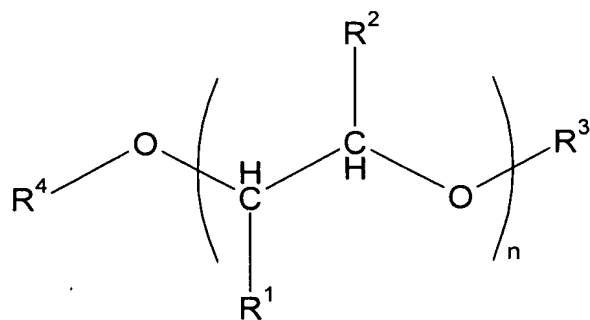
compounds, lubricants, plasticizers, phosphites, pigments, epoxy compounds, antioxidants, UV absorbers, light stabilizers, optical brighteners, and blowing agents.

12. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 7 15 wherein the halogen-containing polymer is polyvinyl chloride.

13. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~7~~ 15 wherein the stabilizer is phosphite-free.

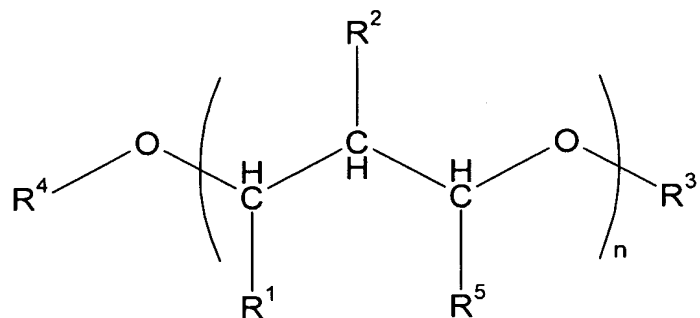
14. (Currently Amended) A method for stabilizing a chlorine-containing polymer comprising adding to said polymer a thermally stabilizing amount of a mixture comprising:

A) from 0.01 to 10 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the chlorine-containing polymer, of at least one polyalkylene glycol of general formula:

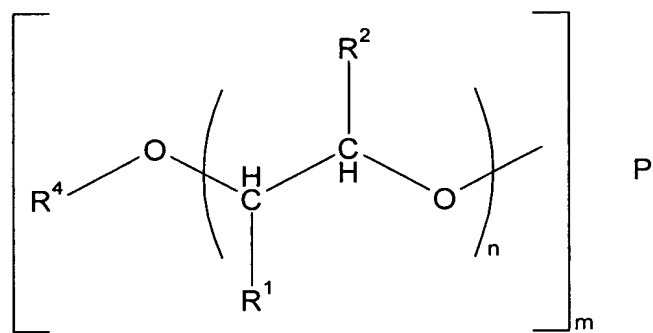


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or



wherein:

R¹, R², and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, hydroxyl, hydroxyalkyl, thiol, and thioalkyl;

R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and acyl; and

n is an integer of from 1 to 20;

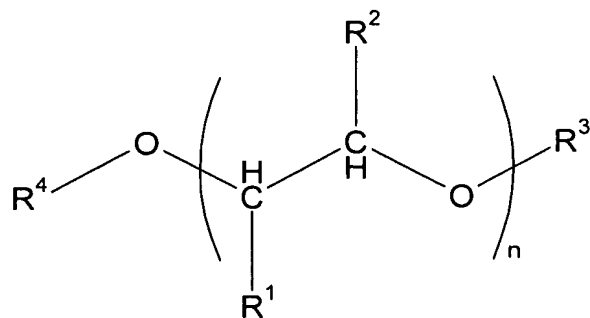
m is 3 and the three substituents in P can be the same or different; and

B) from 0.001 to 5 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the chlorine-containing polymer, of at least one metal salt of a strong acid selected from the group consisting of perchloric acid, trifluoroacetic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, alkylsulfuric acid, phosphotungstic acid, HPF_6 , HBF_4 , and HSbF_6 ; and, optionally,

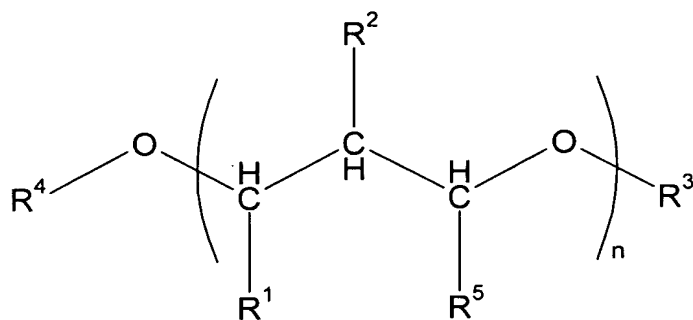
C) from 0.001 to 10 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the chlorine-containing polymer, of at least one metal soap;
provided that when a metal soap is present, the ratio of the weight of the metal soap to the combined weights of the metal salt of the strong acid plus the polyalkylene glycol is no greater than about 3:1.

15. (New) A thermally stable resin composition comprising a halogen-containing polymer and a thermally stabilizing amount of a mixture comprising:

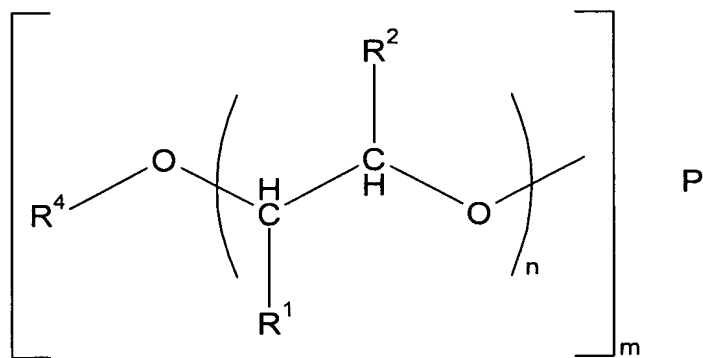
A) from 0.01 to 10 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the chlorine-containing polymer, of at least one polyalkylene glycol of general formula:



or



or



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R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and acyl; and

n is an integer of from 1 to 20;

m is 3 and the three substituents in P can be the same or different;

B) from 0.001 to 5 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the chlorine-containing polymer, of at least one metal salt of a strong acid selected from the group consisting of perchloric acid, trifluoroacetic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, alkylsulfuric acid, phosphotungstic acid, HPF_6 , HBF_4 , and $HSbF_6$; and, optionally,

C) from 0.001 to 10 parts by weight, based on 100 parts by weight of the chlorine-containing polymer, of at least one metal soap;
provided that when a metal soap is present, the ratio of the weight of the metal soap to the combined weights of the metal salt of the strong acid plus the polyalkylene glycol is no greater than about 3:1.